

City of Milpitas Ethics Program

FEEDBACK SURVEY 2005

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If you live or work in Milpitas, the City Ethics Program invites you to spend a few minutes filling out this important feedback survey. As the Ethics Program nears the end of its first year, the City needs to know how good a job city officials are doing at building public trust, practicing "everyday ethics," and role modeling the City's core values of honesty, respect, fairness, stewardship, teamwork, and accountability. This is a completely anonymous survey. Please do not write your name anywhere on the form. The City's Ethics Consultant, Dr. Tom Shanks from Santa Clara University is conducting this study and will present the results to the City Council on February 15, 2005. Those results will also be available on the City's web site.

You may answer the questions by writing on this page or by answering them on-line at www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov. The final deadline for completed surveys is January 20th at 5:00 p.m. Paper surveys should be mailed to Veronica Rodriguez at Milpitas City Hall, 455 E. Calaveras Blvd, Milpitas, CA 95035. As you complete the survey, skip any question you don't wish to answer. We are grateful for your time and investment in the future of the City and all who live or work here. Thank you!

(Note: You must be over the age of 18 to respond to this survey.)

1. To begin, how many years have you lived and/or worked in Milpitas? (Check all that apply and fill in the box with the number of years.)
 - ☐ lived in Milpitas for years
 - ☐ worked in Milpitas for : years
2. Do you think the City of Milpitas today is generally going in the right direction or the wrong direction? (Mark one circle.)
 - ☐ Right Direction
 - ☐ Wrong Direction
3. As you know, in November, 2004, voters elected one new member to the City Council and re-elected the mayor and another Council member. On December 7, the new Council began its work. On a scale of 1 to 6 where 1=no trust, 6=a great deal of trust, and 2 through 5 are in between:

	No trust			A great deal of trust		
	1	2	3	4	5	6
How much did you trust the previous Council to represent the best interests of Milpitas?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
How much do you trust the new Council to represent the best interests of Milpitas?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. How aware were you that the City was developing and implementing an ethics program over the last ten months?

Not aware					Very aware
1	2	3	4	5	6
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

5. How did first become aware of the Ethics Program? (Check all that apply.)

- ☐ word of mouth
- ☐ City website
- ☐ City newsletter
- ☐ *Milpitas Post* article
- ☐ *Mercury News* article
- ☐ Meeting announcements in newspaper
- ☐ Attending a Code Development meeting
- ☐ Attending or viewing City Council or Commission meetings
- ☐ This survey
- ☐ Other (please specify) _____

6. What name did the City give to the Ethics Program?

Program name: _____ ☐ don't recall

7. Did you vote this past November in the Milpitas elections for Mayor and City Council? (Please answer "yes" if you voted in one or both of these races.)

- ☐ yes, voted in one or both local races
- ☐ no, did not vote in either local race

8. In terms of ethics and values, were the November 2004 campaigns in Milpitas better, worse, or about the same as in previous years? (Choose one.)

- ☐ Better (please explain) _____
- ☐ Worse (please explain) _____
- ☐ About the same (please explain) _____
- ☐ Don't know

9. In the Milpitas 2004 election, voters received information from many different sources. How important, if at all, were the following to the way you thought about the candidates?

	Extremely Important	Somewhat Important	Not At All Important	Did not use
The Chamber of Commerce's Candidates Forum in October 14, 2004.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Final Word sponsored by the League of Women Voters on October 30, 2004	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Ethics Program Brochure in the October, 2004 City Newsletter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Milpitas Post news articles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Milpitas Post endorsement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mercury News endorsement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Employee Political Action Committee fliers supporting Lawson, Livengood and Giordano	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Employee Political Action Committee fliers opposing Dixon and Lalwani	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Materials put out by candidates or their committees	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Candidates coming to my door	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Informal conversations with other residents	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

10. In Milpitas, have you ever been elected to public office, appointed to a Commission or City committee, run for local office, volunteered significant time on a local campaign.

☐ yes ☐ no

11. Based on your experience during the November 2004 election, in the future how much are you likely to trust information from the following sources?

	not at all			a great deal		
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Chamber of Commerce Candidates Forum	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
League of Women Voters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
City's Ethics Program	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Milpitas Post	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mercury News	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Employee Political Action Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	not at all			a great deal		
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Candidates or their committees	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Candidates coming my door	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Informal conversations with other Milpitans	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

12. How important, if at all, do you think each of the following would be to encouraging candidates, their committees, and independent groups to follow the City's Ethics Code and conduct fair, honest, and respectful campaigns?

	not important					Very important
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Candidates publicly sign the Ethics Code and promise residents they will follow it.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
In response to complaints during the campaign, an independent ethics board alerts the public about candidates who have upheld or violated the ethics code.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Citizens receive educational materials and are encouraged to hold candidates accountable in the ballot box for conducting honest, fair, and respectful campaigns.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Candidates volunteer to limit their campaign spending to an amount determined by the City.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A public forum is held before the election when candidates are asked to demonstrate or explain how they lived up to their promise to conduct honest and fair campaigns.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

13. Under the Ethics Program, no campaign, candidate, committee, or independent group may mislead voters, intimidate them, place signs without their permission, or make them afraid to go to the polls. Voters should feel completely free to support and vote for candidates they wish. In the past election,

- ☐ I felt completely free to support and vote for the candidate of my choice.
- ☐ I did not feel completely free to support and vote for the candidate of my choice.
- Please explain why: _____

14. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements.

	Very strongly disagree					Very strongly agree	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
People like me can have a big impact on making Milpitas a better place to live.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Very strongly disagree					Very strongly agree	
1	2	3	4	5	6	

Generally speaking, those we elect to the Milpitas City Council care a great deal about what people like me think.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Sometimes politics seems so complicated that a person like me can't really understand what's going on.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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I often talk with my friends about politics and public affairs.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Voting is the only way people like me can have any say in how the government runs things.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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115. In what year were you born?

16. What is your gender?

- ☐ female
☐ male

17. These next two questions ask about ethnicity and race the way the 2000 U.S. Census did. Please answer both. Do you consider yourself of Hispanic or Latino origin?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

18. Which of the following do you consider yourself to be? (Check all that apply.)

- ☐ African American
☐ American Indian and Alaskan Native
☐ Asian
☐ Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
☐ White
☐ Other (specify)
☐ None

19. Which of the following best describes the highest level of formal education you completed?

- ☐ some elementary school
- ☐ completed elementary school
- ☐ some high school
- ☐ Completed high school or GED
- ☐ Some college or Associate's degree
- ☐ Completed college
- ☐ Some Graduate School or Master's Degree
- ☐ Ph.D. or post-graduate

THANK YOU VERY MUCH! PLEASE MAIL TO VERONICA RODRIGUEZ AT MILPITAS CITY
HALL, 455 E. CALAVERAS BLVD, MILPITAS, CA 95035